

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 4, 1997
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 22, 1997
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 21, 1997
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 14, 1997
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 2, 1997

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1997–98 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 776

**Introduced by Assembly Member Baca
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Kuehl)**

February 26, 1997

An act to add Section 48205.5 to the Education Code, relating pupils.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 776, as amended, Baca. Pupil attendance.

Existing law subjects each person between the ages of 6 and 18 years who is not otherwise exempt, to compulsory full-time education. Existing law excuses pupils from school for justifiable personal reasons, including, among others, appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service, and observance of a holiday or ceremony of the pupil's religion. Existing law also provides that the governing board of a school district that has children holding work permits to work temporarily in the entertainment or allied industries and therefore are exempt from attending public full-time day school, or a county superintendent of schools, may contract

with any person, firm, or corporation responsible for the education of those children, to provide eligibility lists and placement services for qualified teaching and other necessary personnel for tutoring of those children while *they are* employed.

This bill would ~~excuse~~ *permit* a pupil who holds a work permit to work for a period of not more than 5 consecutive days in the entertainment or allied industries *to be excused* from school during the period that the pupil is working in the entertainment or allied industry. The bill would expressly provide that these absences shall not be counted as absences for purposes of computing average daily attendance. The bill would ~~require that~~ *authorize a school district to permit* those pupils ~~be permitted~~ to complete all assignments and tests missed during the absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory completion, ~~be given~~ *to give* full credit therefor, as specified. The bill would further provide that a pupil excused for that purpose, for a period of more than 5 consecutive days, ~~shall~~ *may* enroll in a program of independent study. The bill would permit a school district or county superintendent of schools excusing a pupil for that reason to report average daily attendance for the pupil during the period of his or her absence.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 48205.5 is added to the
2 Education Code, to read:
3 48205.5. (a) Notwithstanding Section 48200, a pupil
4 who holds a work permit to work for a period of not more
5 than five consecutive days in the entertainment or allied
6 industries ~~shall~~ *may* be excused from school during the
7 period that the pupil is working in the entertainment or
8 allied industry. *A pupil, or the parent or guardian of the*
9 *pupil, shall give notice of any intended absence at least*
10 *five days in advance of the absence to any teacher of a*
11 *class from which the pupil expects to be absent, or a lesser*
12 *number of days of advance notice, if the teacher or*

1 *teachers involved agree to that time period.* A pupil
2 absent from school under this section ~~shall~~ *may* be
3 permitted to complete all assignments and tests missed
4 during the absence that can be reasonably provided and,
5 upon satisfactory completion, shall be given full credit
6 therefor. The teacher of any class from which a pupil is
7 absent ~~shall~~ *may* determine, pursuant to the regulations
8 of the governing board of the ~~schools~~ *school* district, or
9 the county board of education, what assignments the
10 pupil ~~shall~~ *may* make up and in what period of time the
11 pupil shall complete those assignments. The tests and
12 assignments shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not
13 necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the
14 pupil missed during the absence.

15 (b) A pupil excused pursuant to this section for a
16 period of more than five consecutive days, ~~shall~~ *may*
17 enroll in a program of independent study pursuant to
18 Article 5.5 (commencing with Section 51745) of Chapter
19 5 of Part 28 during the period of absence from school.

20 (c) If a pupil absent pursuant to this section receives
21 instruction during the period of the absence from a studio
22 teacher certified by the Labor Commissioner who holds
23 both a life credential authorizing single subject
24 instruction and a life credential authorizing multiple
25 subject instruction, the school district ~~shall~~ *or county*
26 *superintendent of schools may* accept the work done by
27 the pupil and the grades given to the pupil on that work
28 and shall provide the pupil with credit for the instruction
29 the pupil received from that teacher.

30 (d) At the request of a pupil excused from school
31 pursuant to this section, the pupil ~~shall~~ *may* be permitted
32 to enroll in a work experience program of the school
33 district and ~~shall~~ *may* receive appropriate academic
34 credit for that work experience.

35 (e) This section ~~shall~~ *may* apply to all pupils, whether
36 a pupil is enrolled in regular classes or special education
37 classes, a regional occupational program or center, or a
38 program of independent study, or any other program of
39 the school district or county superintendent of schools.

1 (f) Absences excused pursuant to this section shall not
2 be counted as absences for purposes of computing
3 average daily attendance, and a school district or county
4 superintendent of schools excusing a pupil pursuant to
5 this section may report average daily attendance for the
6 pupil during the period of his or her absence.

